

CITY OF WORCESTER

- WHEREAS: A scientific consensus has developed that Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (ghg) released into the atmosphere have a profound effect on the Earth's climate; and
- WHEREAS: Scientific evidence, including the Third Assessment Report from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the U.S. Global Change Research Program's (USGCRP) First National Assessment indicate that global warming has begun, with the 1990's the hottest decade in recorded history; and
- WHEREAS: More than 160 countries pledge under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions; and
- WHEREAS: In 2001 at the request of the Administration, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) reviewed and confirmed the concerns of the environment and public health communities and declared global warming a real problem impacting key vulnerable populations. The NAS report also confirmed that global warming is caused in part by the actions of humankind; and
- WHEREAS: Energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, accounts for more than 80% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and
- WHEREAS: Local governments significantly influence the community's energy usage by exercising key powers over land use, transportation, construction, waste management and energy supply and management; and
- WHEREAS: Local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, its businesses and its residents; and
- WHEREAS: The Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) has invited the City of Worcester, Massachusetts to become a partner in the Campaign; Now, Therefore, Be It
- RESOLVED: That the City of Worcester commits to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant, pledges to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change. The City of Worcester will undertake the Cities for Climate Protection program 5 milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, specifically:
- Conduct a greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of ghg emissions in the jurisdiction;
 - Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
 - Develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target;
 - Implement the action plan; and
 - Monitor to review progress; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City of Worcester requests assistance from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP) as it progresses through the milestones.

In City Council

October 7, 2003

Resolution adopted by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays.

A Copy. Attest:

David J. Rushford
City Clerk

Introduced in City Council by Mayor Timothy P. Murray, Councillor Barbara G. Haller, Councillor Konstantina B. Lukes, Councillor Stephen T. Patton, Councillor Philip P. Palmieri, Councillor Joseph M. Petty and Councillor Paul P. Clancy, Jr.